

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DE'UNA WILSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. De'Una Wilson, the 2012 Valedictorian at Canton High School, in Canton, Mississippi. De'Una is the daughter of Mr. Derreco, Sr. and Ms. Regenia Wilson. She was born and raised in Canton and attends Canton United Methodist Church.

De'Una's accomplishments can be greatly attributed to her desire to fulfill her grandmother's dying wish for her to graduate at the top of her class. To achieve this, De'Una dedicated herself to her academics and completed her senior year with an "A" average, earning her the merit of Class Valedictorian. In addition to her academics, De'Una has remained active in her community by volunteering at the Open Door Community Outreach Center at Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Canton, and working a part-time job.

De'Una has been accepted into the Engineering Program at Jackson State University where she earned a full scholarship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. De'Una Wilson in being Valedictorian of Canton High School's 2012 graduating class.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE SENECA FALLS CONVENTION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the anniversary of the first Women's Rights Convention in history, held in Seneca Falls, New York in 1848. This groundbreaking convention spanned two days and six sessions, and is considered by many to mark the beginning of the Women's Suffrage Movement in America.

The Seneca Falls Convention was attended by such important figures as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Frederick Douglass. It was there that these luminaries mapped out the strategy to liberate and empower future generations to come. It was there that these women debated Elizabeth Cady Stanton's Declaration of Sentiments, regarded by Frederick Douglass as the "grand basis for attaining the civil, social, political, and religious rights of women."

Since the launch of the first wave of political activism at the Seneca Falls convention, women's rights activists have fought tirelessly for equality and independence and have vigilantly guarded and protected these hard won gains. From 1848–1895, states passed laws that extensively expanded the property rights of married women. And in 1920, women finally earned the right to vote.

In the 1960s, the second wave of political activism brought an expansion of the successes in the fight against gender inequality with the inclusion of workplace and reproductive rights. The Equal Pay Act was passed in 1963, followed a year later by the creation of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. The 1965 Supreme Court ruling in *Griswold v. Connecticut* struck down state law banning the use of contraception. And in 1973 *Roe v. Wade* granted women the right to privacy and to make their own decision to have an abortion. The passage of landmark Title IX in 1972 mandated equal opportunities for women in higher education. In 2009, President Obama signed into law the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which amends the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to reset the 180-day statute of limitations on equal pay lawsuits every time a discriminatory paycheck is issued.

These victories over the last 164 years were possible because of the foundation laid out by the historic Seneca Falls Women's Rights Convention.

But, unfortunately Mr. Speaker, despite all of these achievements, there is still a substantial amount of work to do. I have witnessed, over the last few years, efforts by my colleagues across the aisle begin to roll back many of these hard won rights. We have seen the attempt to strip women of their reproductive rights and of their right to choose. We have seen attempts to strip funding for family planning programs. We have seen attempts to redefine rape, in a way that turns the innocent into an "accuser" rather than a victim.

Let us not allow the 72-year struggle for women's suffrage, and the 164-year battle for women's rights to be in vain. We must resist and defeat those who would wage war on women. Let us not allow a War on Women to continue to permit violence against women, workplace discrimination, and disparate wages. Women, indeed, and all Americans must stand for what is right and honor our Nation's maxim of freedom and liberty for all. We must remember the Seneca Falls Convention and fight for the principle of equality that serves as the foundation of our great Nation.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EDWARD RAMIREZ, SR.

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments and celebrate the life of Edward Ramirez, Sr.

Edward Ramirez, Sr. was born on March 1, 1930 to Bernardina and Pedro Ramirez and he recently passed away peacefully on July 13, 2012. He was surrounded by his family in his final moments.

As a young boy, Edward Ramirez, Sr. worked in the fields of San Jose. He enlisted

when he was only 15 and served our country during World War II in Germany. In 1967, he started his social activism as an original member, parishioner, and leader at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in San Jose, where he gave his time and resources in the fight to improve the community.

Edward graduated from San Jose State University in 1973 and advocated for the establishment of the Educational Opportunity Program, EOP, that improves student academic support of low-income and educationally disadvantaged students. He established the first alcohol rehabilitation center, Casa Adelante, in Santa Clara County. His expertise with the Hispanic Community in need of alcohol rehabilitation services has earned him the respect and gratitude of our community.

Edward is survived by his children, Edward, Jr., Arlene, Julian, Margaret, Catherine, and Julieana; 16 grandchildren; 6 great-grandsons; and numerous loving siblings, nieces, and nephews he loved. He was a much beloved son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and pillar of the community.

We honor and mourn the passing of Edward Ramirez, Sr. We thank Edward for his invaluable service to our community and applaud his numerous contributions to the economically disadvantaged. We are very fortunate to have benefited from his passion, advocacy, and tenacity. He has left his mark in San Jose and the larger community.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE MCGOVERN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor George McGovern who is celebrating his 90th birthday and to thank him for his many years of service and dedication to social justice.

McGovern was a steadfast student at Dakota Wesleyan University, where he was elected school president twice. Following his service during WWII, McGovern enrolled at Northwestern University where he earned M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in government and American history.

In 1956, McGovern was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he spent two terms as an advocate to the American farmer. Continuing on his mission of social justice McGovern was named Director of the Food for Peace Program by President John F. Kennedy, leading efforts to donate food to developing countries. As a U.S. Senator from South Dakota, McGovern made an immediate impact by challenging the U.S. military involvement in Vietnam, and by being named Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs. He held office for three terms during which time he continued challenging the Vietnam War.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

After leaving the Senate and after his bids for president, McGovern served as the 6th United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture during the Clinton Administration. In 2001, McGovern was appointed as the first UN Global Ambassador on World Hunger and continues to be a leading advocate in the fight against hunger around the world.

Throughout his storied career both in Congress and as a leading voice against world hunger, McGovern has been honored countless times. He has received more than ten honorary degrees and is the recipient of a Presidential Medal of Freedom, a Gandhi Peace Award and a National Peacemaker Award from the National Conflict Resolution Center.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring a long time friend, George McGovern, on the occasion of this 90th birthday.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM
ANDREW LOTT

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Captain William Andrew Lott of Leesburg, Florida, my uncle, who passed away earlier this month. A native of Dallas, Texas, Captain Lott flew combat missions in Korea and Vietnam, serving 34 years in the United States Navy in both hot and cold wars. He flew three different types of carrier-based aircraft including the A-1 Skyraider, the F-8 Crusader and the F-4 Phantom. He spent the equivalent of six years of his life at sea, amassing thousands of hours of flight time in three different combat aircraft, serving four tours of duty in Vietnam, and surviving ejections from crippled aircraft three times. He served proudly as not only a fighter pilot, but also as the Commanding Officer of both Fighter Squadron Forty One and the Naval Air Facility in El Centro, California. During his illustrious career, Captain Lott was the recipient of many awards and commendations including the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, and Navy Commendation Medal.

He was also an outstanding mentor to both the junior enlisted and officers under his command, with one former subordinate commenting, "He was a great leader and mentor, just like a Navy fighter pilot his timing was always on target; he knew when a junior officer needed direction and was always compassionate when doing so. He was not afraid to do what was right even in the face of adversity."

His Public Works Officer at El Centro noted, "the leadership style he passed on to me stayed with me. It was his guidance that pushed me on to be Operations Officer in Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 62 and to later become Commanding Officer of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 7. In fact, when the civilian construction world called me, it was because of Captain Lott I chose to stay in longer as I wanted to command just like him."

Captain Lott leaves behind two sons, Randall and David, and a nation grateful for his distinguished service.

IN RECOGNITION OF SERGEANT
CHRISTOPHE RUSTICI'S SERVICE
TO OUR COUNTRY WITH THE
UNITED STATES MARINE CORP

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I thank Sergeant Christophe Rustici for his brave and honorable service to our country with the United States Marine Corps.

Sgt. Rustici has served with the Marine Corps since May of 2006 when he enlisted as a Reservist. During his enlistment he was deployed to both Afghanistan and Iraq in support of our combat operations in the region. Christophe fought side by side with local and NATO coalition forces, and was in charge of several of his fellow Marines. He was responsible for providing security to many installations and bases in both Iraq and Afghanistan, assisted with first aid to both locals and fellow soldiers, and assisted in engaging with the local forces and population to provide humanitarian aid.

Sgt. Rustici's hard work and efforts have been recognized with a Certificate of Commendation for his actions as a Fire Team Leader and Sergeant of the Guard for his service in Afghanistan. He has also qualified as a Rifle and Pistol Expert with the Marine Corps, and has been awarded a Meritorious Mast for Excellence while working as a recruiter with the Marines.

Our liberties, our values, and everything America stands for is due to the heroic services of our men and women in uniform. I thank Christophe for his service to the United States and wish him all the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING ELIZABETH
"BEEZIE" MADDEN

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my constituents, Elizabeth "Beezie" Madden of Cazenovia, New York for her involvement in the 2012 Summer Olympics in London.

Beezie already has a very distinguished riding career, establishing herself as one of the premier equestrian riders in the world. In addition to becoming the first woman to pass the \$1 million mark in show jumping earnings, she has competed in two Olympics, winning two Gold medals and a Bronze.

Beezie will be competing in the London Olympics representing the United States this summer. Her success adds to a long history of New York Olympians continuing the proud American athletic tradition in international competition. I wish Beezie all the best in the Olympics, and I know she will represent our region—and our nation—proudly.

TRIBUTE TO DENNIS AND JEAN
DORTON

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 23, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dennis T. Dorton, the President and Chief Executive Officer at Citizens National Bank, in honor of his retirement after contributing more than 42 years of banking excellence. I also would like to recognize Dennis' wife, Jean Dorton, and honor her for her strong leadership and service to the Commonwealth. Mr. and Mrs. Dorton have been a dynamic duo over the years. Working together they have helped transform southern and eastern Kentucky.

As a Paintsville native, Dennis Dorton has served as a third generation President of Citizens National Bank, which has been a part of the Dorton family for 90 years. Mr. Dorton began his career at the bank in 1970, after graduating from Morehead State University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

Raised in the spirit that a banker's place is in the community, Mr. Dorton is a leader in various community organizations including the Christian Appalachian Project, the American Red Cross, a group working to restore programs and operations at the David School, and the local utilities commission building a new water plant in Paintsville. He is an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Paintsville and has been involved in Volunteers in Mission traveling to Belize and Costa Rica to help build church and school buildings.

Mr. Dorton's involvement in civic and community service efforts span a broad spectrum. He has served as, Chairman of the Big Sandy Regional Industrial Development Authority board, Treasurer and Board member of Paintsville-Johnson County Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Appalachian Artisan Center, and Vice Chairman and Board Member of the Christian Appalachian Project board. Mr. Dorton also served as Treasurer for the Kentucky Bankers Association in the '80s and Chairman of the Kentucky Bankers Association from 2007–2008.

Mr. Dorton has had a strong partner by his side in his wife, Jean Dorton. Mrs. Dorton is a graduate of Morehead State University and has worked for the Big Sandy Community and Technical College since 2005. Like her husband, Mrs. Dorton has been involved in many organizations within the community. Mrs. Dorton was a founding member of the Eastern Kentucky Federated Republican Women and a member of the University of Pikeville Board of Regents. She served on the Paintsville City Council, and currently serves on the board for the Center for Rural Development, and on the PRIDE Executive Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dennis and Jean Dorton for their countless years of dedication and service to the families of southern and eastern Kentucky and for their banking expertise and civic leadership which have impacted the community for the better.